



I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.

Elizabeth A. Dudek
Typed or Printed Name of Person Sending Paper or Fee
Elizabeth A. Dudek February 2, 2006
Signature Date

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of)
Hiroaki Hara, et al.) Examiner: Not Assigned
on AEROGEL AND METALLIC)
COMPOSITES) Group Art Unit: 1754
Serial No.: 10/695,214) Confirmation No. 4508
Filed: October 28, 2003) (Docket No. 6872-0001-1)

Hartford, Connecticut, February 2, 2006

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sirs:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 3 of this paper.